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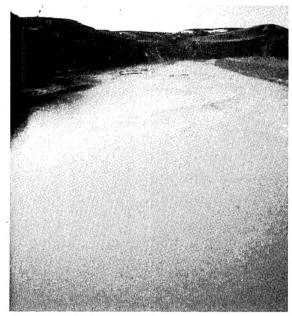
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# The Winter Low-Flow Balance of the Semiarid White River, Nebraska and South Dakota

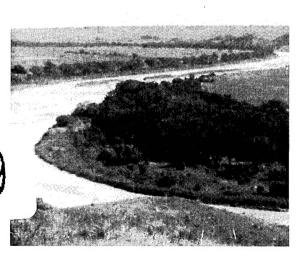
Michael G. Ferrick, Nathan D. Mulherin and Darryl J. Calkins

July 1995









### Abstract

Low-flow studies are needed to quantify the effects of water consumption on stream flow, water quality, groundwater resources, and contaminant transport. The low-flow water balance of a river in a cold region is simplified in winter because evapotranspiration is negligible, irrigation water withdrawals and diversions are halted, and precipitation occurs largely as snow, minimizing the spatial and temporal variability of runoff. We investigated the monthly low-flow water balance of White River (Neb. and S. Dak.) reaches over seven consecutive winters. Water going into or out of storage as ice or melt, obtained with an air temperature index model, can be a dominant component of the water balance. The point estimate method is used to account for parameter uncertainty and variability, providing the mean, variance, and limits of dependent variables such as water storage as ice and inflow from a subbasin. Negative surface water yield from several-thousand-squarekilometer subbasins occurred regularly through the period, indicating a significant flow from the river to the alluvial aquifers. The winter water balance results suggest either a perched river or a coupled surface water-groundwater hydrologic system in particular subbasins, consistent with the field investigations of Rothrock (1942). The winter flow exchange between the surface and subsurface can be used to estimate the annual exchange for both hydrologic conditions.

Cover: Views of the White River at several locations in the basin. Clockwise from lower left: at Crawford, at Oglala, upstream of Kadoka, and near Oacoma. The river decreases in size between Crawford and Oglala even though the basin size increases by a factor of 6. The river increases in size downstream of Oglala to Kadoka, and then maintains its size with a large inflow from the Little White River, downstream to Oacoma. (Photos by N. Mulherin and D. Calkins.)

For conversion of SI units to non-SI units of measurement consult ASTM Standard E380-93, Standard Practice for Use of the International System of Units, published by the American Society for Testing and Materials, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19103.

# CRREL Report 95-15



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July 1995

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### **PREFACE**

This report was prepared by Michael G. Ferrick, Research Hydrologist, Nathan D. Mulherin, Research Physical Scientist, Snow and Ice Division, and Darryl J. Calkins, Chief, Geological Sciences Division, Research and Engineering Directorate, U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL), Hanover, New Hampshire.

Funding for the work was provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Research Program, Water Resources of Cold Regions.

This report was technically reviewed by Edward Chacho of CRREL, Alaska, Robert Ettema of the University of Iowa, and two anonymous reviewers.

Michael Burr, Darwin Rahder, Ralph Teller, and Marvin Stevens of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in South Dakota and James Vosses of the USGS in Nebraska provided data and references that were essential to the completion of this study. Important contributions from members of CRREL included those of Nicholas Goodman (model computations), Matthew Pacillo (figure preparation), Donna Harp (equation and table preparation), and Maria Bergstad (editing).

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# The Winter Low-Flow Balance of the Semiarid White River, Nebraska and South Dakota

MICHAEL G. FERRICK, NATHAN D. MULHERIN AND DARRYL J. CALKINS

### INTRODUCTION

Water resource development in semiarid regions can lead to declining groundwater levels and streamflow in valleys with permeable soils and interconnected surface-subsurface flow systems, without a corresponding decrease in precipitation. Evapotranspiration losses, water withdrawals, and irrigation return flow affect both the stream and shallow groundwater levels. Soil and geologic characteristics determine the total near-surface aquifer storage, the groundwater recharge from precipitation, and the locations and rates of exchange between groundwater and surface water. The simple characterization of basins by drainage area and precipitation is useful only in homogeneous basins. Subbasin yields at times of low flow can vary widely within a relatively small basin as a result of diverse water-bearing properties of underlying soils and rocks (Schneider 1965, Gerard 1981). Riggs (1972) suggested lowflow discharge measurements at several locations along a stream to define the base flows and the hydrologic homogeneity or heterogeneity of a basin. For a given basin, the annual precipitation and its distribution in time and space determine the quantity of water in storage, and the air temperature regime affects the rate of water loss through evapotranspiration and the storage of water as snow and ice.

Planners need tools for evaluating the effect of proposed changes in water usage in a basin on river flow, potential aquifer yields, water quality, contaminant migration, and other issues (ASCE 1980). In regions with water shortages, an improved understanding of the effects of water consumption is especially important. During periods of low streamflow, the surface water is generally of groundwater origin, but groundwater re-

charge and discharge are difficult hydrological parameters to quantify. Sophocleous and Perkins (1993) developed a coupled stream—aquifer model with an annual time step and applied it to bound the hydrologic budget imbalance resulting from irrigation development in Kansas. Lacher et al. (1994) measured streamflow, evaporation rates, soil conductivities, pumping rates, and well hydrographs to estimate the rate of aquifer recharge from the Santa Cruz River in Arizona. Abdulrazzak and Sorman (1994) used a water balance approach to estimate flood water losses from ephemeral streams in arid regions, but large spatial and temporal parameter variability introduced uncertainty in the results.

Low flows typically occur in the same season each year. Late summer and winter are low-flow periods in the northern United States and southern Canada (Melloh 1990, Rogers and Armbruster 1990, Wuebben et al. 1992). Kuusisto (1986) reported mean winter-to-summer low-flow ratios that decrease significantly with distance north in Finland. Winter has been generally considered a hydrologically dormant period and has not been extensively studied. However, the exchange of water between a river and its near-surface aquifers is most readily quantified during the winter months. The winter low-flow water balance is simplified because there is negligible evapotranspiration, irrigation water withdrawals and diversions are halted, and precipitation occurs largely in the form of snow, minimizing the spatial and temporal variability of runoff. A complication is that the ice produced in the river can be a large component of the water balance for semiarid basins in even moderately cold regions.

The White River in Nebraska and South Dakota, an uncontrolled tributary of the Missouri River, has a basin of 26,400 km<sup>2</sup>, but typical win-

ter monthly average flows are less than 4 m<sup>3</sup>/s. The White River basin is heterogeneous, but flows throughout are low and stable in winter. In this report we investigate the winter water balance of the White River in eight subbasins. The water balance is written as a monthly average for river reaches bounded by flow gages. The flow contributions from subbasins and the water storage in the river due to ice production are computed for a series of seven winters, from November 1974 to February 1981. Water going into or out of storage as ice or melt is calculated from an air temperature index model. The point estimate method (PEM) of Rosenblueth (1975) (Appendix A) allows us to apply deterministic relations for ice growth or melt, water storage as ice, and subbasin water yield to the river while still accounting for uncertain or variable parameters in the calculations and flow measurements. The PEM provides an expected value, variance, and estimated limits of the probability distributions that characterize the dependent variable in each of these calculations. Our objective is to quantify the water yield from each subbasin to the river and, where possible, the river-subsurface flow exchange.

### GENERAL HYDROLOGY OF THE BASIN

The White River basin lies in an unglaciated part of the Missouri Plateau characterized by undulating uplands and wide floodplains along the larger streams. The location and basin maps for the White River given in Figure 1 indicate the basin boundaries, the primary tributaries, the Little White River basin boundaries, and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) stream gaging stations and meteorological data stations used in this study. The streamflow gages on the main river and the Little White River are listed in Table 1, along with the drainage area of each nested subbasin, the annual and winter average discharges for the period of record, the gage datum, the approximate river location of each gage or length of the reach between gages, the average channel slope, and the linear distance between gages. The winter average discharge was obtained from November through February monthly averages. The channels of the White and Little White Rivers are highly mobile within the floodplain, and river location is not published by the USGS. The approximate

Table 1. Basin, flow, and river parameters corresponding to USGS gages on the White and Little White Rivers.

	Drainage	Avg. discharge (m³/s)		Gage datum	Gage location or reach	Approx.	Linear	River/ linear	
Location	area (km²)	Annual	Winter	Ratio	or elev. (m)	length (km)	river slope	distance (km)	distance ratio
White River	2.2			4.04	44455	004.0			
Crawford	810	0.57	0.59	1.04	1115.5	804.0	0.0010	70.0	0.40
Cr–Og	4,890	0.96	-0.06	_		196.0	0.0013	78.9	2.48
Oglala	5, <b>7</b> 00	1.53	0.53	0.35	869.8	608.0			
Og-Ka	7,300	6.03	1.21	0.20		260.0	0.00086	118.5	2.19
Kadoka	13,000	7.56	1.74	0.23	646.8	348.0			
Little White River									
Martin	800	0.54	0.38	0.71	928.1	196.0			
Ma-Ve	700	0.99	0.69	0.70		62.0	0.0013	33.2	1.87
Vetal	1,500	1.53	1.07	0.70	847.6	134.0			
Ve-Rb	1,140	1.61	1.40	0.87		65.6	0.0022	37.6	1.74
Rosebud	2,640	3.14	2.47	0.79	699.5	68.4			
Rb-WR	1,430	0.48	0.17	0.35		45.1	0.0026	32.5	1.39
White River	4,070	3.62	2.64	0.73	583.0	23.3			
WR-Confl	,				541.0	23.3	0.0018		
White River									
Ka+WR	17,070	11.2	4.37	0.39					
KaWR-Oa	9,330	3.7	-0.90	_					
Ka-Oa	- /					342.0	0.00066	158.0	2.16
Oacoma	26,400	14.9	3.47	0.23	419.8	6.0			

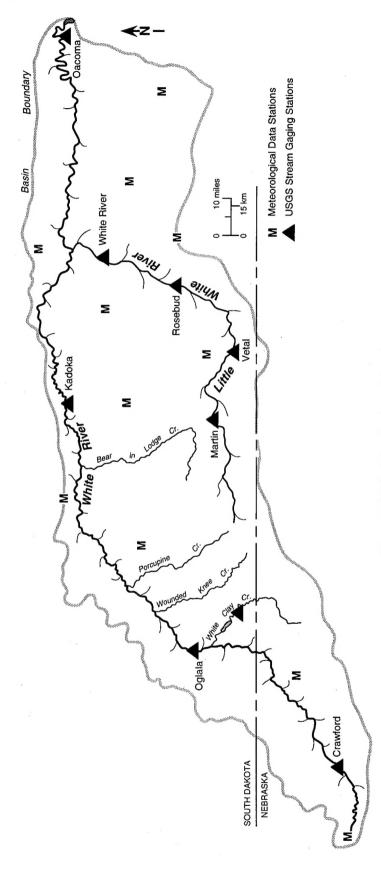


Figure 1. White River basin and location maps.

river locations in Table 1 were obtained from recent maps using a map wheel. The White River is generally more sinuous than the Little White River, with generally higher river/linear distance ratios. The Little White River below Martin has an average slope of 0.0020, more than twice the 0.00087 of the White River below Crawford.

Sando (1991) detailed the surface water diversions and groundwater withdrawals for irrigation over the last 50 years in the White River basin upstream of the South Dakota state line. Water use is zero for November through April but currently averages 50% of the flow at the state line gage for the remainder of the year. All tributaries in the basin above the state line are ephemeral (Sando 1991) and, more generally, streams in the White River basin are unreliable sources of water (Ellis and Adolphson 1971). Most streamflow occurs in response to precipitation and runoff during spring and early summer, with a large component of the March flow due to snowmelt. Rothrock (1942) reported extensive field investigations throughout the river valley over a 43-km reach from Kadoka downstream. The alluvium there is between 7.5 and 12.5 m deep, composed mostly of sands and gravels, overlying Pierre shale. Near-surface aquifers in the alluvial deposits are permeable and readily exchange water with the river. The groundwater level is below the river surface during dry seasons, rising to river level during wet seasons. When river flow ceases, deep pools remain wet, reflecting the water table level. Short reaches of the perennial Bear-in-the-Lodge, Porcupine, Wounded Knee, and White Clay Creeks intercept the water table, allowing groundwater inflow to supplement runoff. The larger tributaries supply groundwater with a different chemical signature directly to the alluvium of the White River. The wind-blown sand deposits in the Little White River basin above Rosebud are permeable, minimizing surface runoff and providing more consistent flows than are found elsewhere in the basin (Ellis et al. 1971).

The subbasin above the Crawford gage provides stable river flows throughout the year. Significant groundwater input to the river and minimal surface runoff cause this stability, which is interrupted only occasionally by large spring and summer events. The annual hydrograph of monthly average flows at Oglala has peaks in both March and June and low flows in the fall and winter. The average winter flow at Oglala is less than that at Crawford (Table 1), even though the basin is seven times larger. Rothrock (1942) report-

ed that "in the upper part of the valley" a considerable flow will frequently disappear within 35 km due to groundwater recharge. The annual hydrograph of monthly average flows at Kadoka also has double peaks and the same general shape as that at Oglala, with flow decreasing through the fall and into midwinter. However, the increase in discharge between these gages is generally significant, due largely to flow contributions of the perennial creeks. The yield of the Little White River basin as surface water is indicated by gage White River (WR) at 23 km above the White River confluence. Spring flows on the Little White are high and variable, while fall and winter flows are lower and more stable. Summer flows are occasionally high, but generally consistent with the groundwater-inflow-dominated fall and winter conditions. The annual hydrographs of monthly average flow for all gages in the Little White basin have single peaks in either March or April. The monthly average White River flow at the Oacoma gage near the mouth can vary dramatically between seasons, especially spring and summer, and years. Winter flows are more consistent and extremely low by comparison, with 0.6 m<sup>3</sup>/s at Crawford and 2.6 m<sup>3</sup>/s from the Little White River equaling almost the entire flow at Oacoma from subbasins representing only 18% of the total drainage area.

Figure 2 provides a breakdown of annual and winter average water yields to the river of sequential subbasins of the White River basin, delineated by the primary streamflow gages. The highest annual and winter water yields in the entire basin occur in a subbasin of the Little White River between Martin and Rosebud. This subbasin has an annual water yield 2.5 times greater, and a winter yield 8.7 times greater, than that of the complete basin. The ratio of winter to annual average discharge is greater than 1 for the subbasin above Crawford and greater than 0.7 for all subbasins of the Little White River above the gage at Rosebud. However, for most of the main-stem White River and the Little White River below Rosebud, the winter flows are only 23 to 35% of the annual average. The subbasin between Crawford and Oglala has the lowest annual yield in the entire basin and a negative winter yield. Other subbasins with low yields both annually and in winter are the Little White below Rosebud and the White below Kadoka. Unlike the other main-stem subbasins below Crawford, the subbasin between Oglala and Kadoka has a high annual yield and a positive winter yield. The

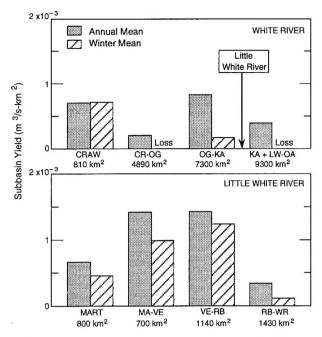


Figure 2. Annual and winter average water yields for the period of record in sequential subbasins of the White River basin.

hydrogeologic maps of Ellis and Adolphson (1971) and Ellis et al. (1971) support the conclusion that the primary reason for the widely differing yields of the White River subbasins is differences in near-surface geology.

### RIVER ICE GROWTH AND MELT

The extreme low flows in winter on the main stem of the White River greatly increase the importance of water storage as ice in the water balance. We now develop a method to quantify the storage of water as river ice and its release as melt. A large number of processes occur during ice formation and growth in rivers that contribute to variable ice thickness. For example, rapids can remain open all winter, producing ice at a high rate, while slower and deeper reaches situated downstream can collect this ice and develop thick deposits. However, we are interested in characterizing ice growth at a monthly time scale over long reaches of a shallow, mildly sloped river. Therefore, we assume that these local, mechanically induced variations in thickness occur about a mean that is dictated by the air temperature regime. The physically based air temperature index model of ice growth given by Ashton (1989) is applied:

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{1}{\rho_i L} \frac{\left(T_m - T_a\right)}{\left(\frac{h}{k} + \frac{1}{H_{ia}} + \frac{h_s}{k_s}\right)} \tag{1}$$

where h and  $h_{\rm s}$  are thicknesses (m) of the ice and its snow cover, t is time (s), k and  $k_{\rm s}$  are thermal conductivities of the ice and snow (W/m °C), L is the latent heat of fusion (J/kg),  $\rho_{\rm i}$  is the density of ice (kg/m³),  $H_{\rm ia}$  is the ice–air or snow-air heat transfer coefficient (W/m² °C), and  $T_{\rm m}$  and  $T_{\rm a}$  are the ice melting point and air temperatures (°C), respectively. Integrating eq 1 and taking the positive root of the resulting quadratic equation, we obtain the final or end-of-the-month ice thickness  $h_{\rm f}$  as

$$h_{\rm f} = \left[ \left( h_{\rm i} + h_{\rm r} \right)^2 - \frac{2kT_{\rm a}\Delta t}{\rho_{\rm i}L} \right]^{1/2} - h_{\rm r}$$
 (2)

where

$$h_{\rm r} = k \left( \frac{1}{H_{\rm ia}} + \frac{h_{\rm s}}{k_{\rm s}} \right),$$

 $h_i$  is a given initial or start-of-the-month ice thickness, and  $\Delta t$  is the monthly time increment (s). The parameter  $h_r$  in eq 2 represents an equivalent ice thickness corresponding to the thermal resistance of the snow and the interface with the air.

The melting of a river ice cover can occur on both the top and bottom surfaces. The heat supplied by the water to the bottom surface becomes dominant during ice breakup in the spring as the area of open water upstream becomes large (Prowse 1990). However, in the early stages of ice melt when most of the river is still ice covered, the direct heat flux from the atmosphere to the top surface is dominant. We assume that ice melt during the winter period represents an "early stage" of melt and that the snow on the ice at this time is negligible. These assumptions allow us to use a simplified form of eq 1 to estimate the melt, and integration yields

$$h_{\rm f} = h_{\rm i} - \frac{H_{\rm ia}}{\rho_{\rm i} L} T_{\rm a} \Delta t \ . \tag{3}$$

With  $h_f$  known from either eq 2 or 3, we can obtain the monthly average flow  $Q_{ice}$  that has gone into or out of storage as ice or melt:

$$Q_{\text{ice}} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \frac{\left(B_{\text{in}} + B_{\text{out}}\right)}{2} \left(h_{\text{f}} - h_{\text{i}}\right) \tag{4}$$

where  $\Delta x$  is the reach length (m) and B is channel width at the upstream (in) and downstream (out) ends of the reach. Equation 4 assumes that the average width of the river in a reach can be obtained by averaging the widths at each end.

### WINTER RIVER WATER BALANCE

Over the period of record, the annual and winter water yields to the White River indicated a wide range of subbasin hydrologic conditions. In particular, major differences in subbasin yields to the river were evident in the winter. We now develop a monthly winter water balance for a river reach that includes variable water storage in the river channel with large changes in flow, the formation or melt of river ice, and flow exchange with the corresponding subbasin. The effects of unsteadiness on the water balance are negligible during low-flow periods and will be neglected. The net inflow to the river from a subbasin  $Q_{\rm sub}$  has tributary and groundwater components:

$$Q_{\rm sub} = Q_{\rm gw} + Q_{\rm t1} + Q_{\rm t2} + Q_{\rm t3} + \dots$$
 (5)

where  $Q_{\rm gw}$  is groundwater inflow and  $Q_{\rm t1}$ ,  $Q_{\rm t2}$ , and  $Q_{\rm t3}$  are tributary inflows. The net groundwater exchange between adjacent subbasins is needed to determine if  $Q_{\rm gw}$  is supplied by the subbasin or if it contains a significant intersubbasin component. The groundwater flow in the alluvium  $Q_{\rm int}$  at a subbasin boundary is given by Darcy's Law as

$$Q_{\rm int} = AKJ \tag{6}$$

where A is cross-sectional area, K is hydraulic conductivity of the alluvium, and J is the hydraulic gradient. Rothrock (1942) obtained the data needed to evaluate the downvalley groundwater flow near Kadoka as  $Q_{\rm int} = 0.017~{\rm m}^3/{\rm s}$ . The net groundwater exchange of a subbasin with its neighbors is the difference between  $Q_{\rm int}$  values at the bounding stream gages. The downvalley groundwater flow along the main-stem White River is small relative to the subbasin flows given in Table 1, and the net exchange is probably even smaller. Therefore, we will assume that  $Q_{\rm gw}$  is supplied by the subbasin.

The flow storage in the channel  $Q_{st}$  caused by significant changes in the monthly average flow can be computed for a river reach as

$$Q_{\rm st} = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} \left[ \frac{B_{\rm in} \Delta Y_{\rm in} + B_{\rm out} \Delta Y_{\rm out}}{2} \right]$$
 (7)

where  $\Delta Y$  (m) is the channel depth change at the upstream (*in*) and downstream (*out*) ends of the reach, assuming that depth change can be adequately described by averaging the end values. The depth changes can be determined from the measured average discharge at each gage for the present and previous months and corresponding river stage data.

The winter water balance for a river reach delineated by a pair of stream gages is depicted in Figure 3 and written as

$$Q_{\rm in} + Q_{\rm sub} - Q_{\rm ice} - Q_{\rm st} - Q_{\rm out} = 0$$
 (8)

where  $Q_{\rm in}$  and  $Q_{\rm out}$  are the flows measured at the upstream and downstream gages, respectively. In low-flow months the subbasin flow exchange may be almost exclusively with the groundwater. As tributary inflows are always nonnegative,  $Q_{\rm sub} < 0$  implies groundwater recharge from the river.

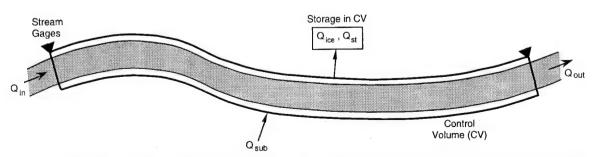


Figure 3. Schematic diagram of the control volume used to obtain the winter water balance for a river reach.

All of these computations are nested, with changes in ice thickness obtained for a given month and then used to find  $Q_{\rm ice}$ . With  $Q_{\rm st}$  and  $Q_{\rm ice}$  known from eq 7 and 4, and  $Q_{\rm in}$  and  $Q_{\rm out}$  known from gage records, we can obtain  $Q_{\rm sub}$  with eq 8. Finally, tributary inflows are used with  $Q_{\rm sub}$  to obtain the groundwater discharge or recharge  $Q_{\rm gw}$  from eq 5.

### POINT ESTIMATE METHOD

Mean values can now be determined for Qice,  $Q_{st}$ ,  $Q_{sub}$ , and  $Q_{gw}$ , but they would not account for the known variability of input parameters such as air temperature, heat transfer coefficient, and channel width. In addition, many of the measured or estimated parameters contain uncertainty that contributes to the uncertainty of the corresponding dependent variable. We will use the Rosenblueth (1975) point estimate method (PEM) to account for and quantify the uncertainty in our deterministic winter water balance. The independent variables in each deterministic equation that contain uncertainty are considered random variables. The first two or three moments of each random variable and the correlation coefficients between variables are given as input, quantifying the variability or uncertainty. The PEM provides the mean, variance, and limits of the dependent variable, uniquely specifying a beta distribution (Harr 1977) that describes the uncertainty of a function of random variables. The estimated mean value is equivalent to a second-order Taylor series approximation, and the variance is a firstorder estimate. The method is algebraic, replacing the distribution of each random variable by point estimates and not requiring the computation of derivatives. The PEM offers several advantages over a deterministic approach. A computed mean value has much greater importance when the variance is small, but variance is unknown in a deterministic model. The random variables contributing most of the uncertainty to the results can be readily identified, which can help to refine data collection. In addition, the interpretation of PEM results is straightforward. For example, though a river reach may have positive inflow from its subbasin based on mean values, there may be a significant probability that the flow direction is the opposite.

We apply the PEM to the ice growth or melt in eq 2 or 3 by considering air temperature, the airice heat transfer coefficient, and the initial ice thickness as the primary random variables. The mean of  $H_{ia}$  was taken as 20 W/m<sup>2</sup> °C with a standard deviation of 5 W/m<sup>2</sup> °C, representative of the data presented by Ashton (1989). Ice density and thermal conductivity are correlated random variables, but their variability is minor. The mean ice density was taken as 900 kg/m<sup>3</sup> with a standard deviation of 15 (Mulherin et al. 1992). The mean thermal conductivity of ice was taken as 2.17 W/ m °C with a standard deviation of 0.1, and the latent heat of fusion was assumed constant at 333,400 J/kg (Ashton 1986). Data were unavailable to quantify the snow depth on the ice. However, because the overflow of water on grounded ice often incorporates the snow into the ice surface,  $h_s$  was assumed to be negligible.

In computing  $Q_{ice}$  with eq 4, the independent random variables are river distance between the gages, channel width at each gage, and correlated initial and final ice thicknesses. The estimated mean river distances between the gages are given in Table 1. Based on multiple trials, the measurement error in obtaining these distances from maps was about 2% of the distance, and in addition, the movement of the river within the floodplains could alter the distances from those shown on the maps by a few percent of the length. Therefore, we assume a coefficient of variation of 0.05 for reach length. Ice formation causes the flow in the wide, flat channel to shift its location. Ice then freezes to the bed in nearshore and bar areas, and water flow is restricted to only a portion of the apparent width. The channel width of the ice/water interface was measured by the USGS each time a discharge rating was done at a gage. The channel cross section and discharge at which these measurements were made varied. We used all available measurements during ice-covered flow conditions to obtain the mean width and its variance near each gage. The mean width varied from 4 m on the Little White River at Martin to 23 m on the White River at Oacoma. The coefficient of variation of the river width varied between 0.11 and 0.46. These data indicate that the width of the White River at low flow can vary significantly over short distances. Systematic analysis of aerial photographs of the river taken at low flow just prior to ice formation or extensive ground measurements along the river would best quantify the distribution of width.

The  $Q_{\rm st}$  computation in eq 7 has reach length and stream width and correlated depth changes at the ends of the reach as independent random variables. We assume that  $Q_{\rm st}$  is generally negli-

gible but evaluate it for the pairs of months of largest flow increase and decrease in the period of record.  $Q_{\rm sub}$  in eq 8 can be evaluated considering each component of the water balance as a random variable. The measurement error for discharge at the gages in winter is typically about 8%, as reported on the USGS discharge measurement notes. We will use this value as the coefficient of variation for the measured monthly average discharges at the gages.  $Q_{\rm in}$  and  $Q_{\rm out}$  correlations were computed for each pair of gages over the period of study and have coefficients that increase with distance downstream.

### RESULTS

Seven consecutive winters from November 1974 to February 1981 provide a representative range of temperature and hydrologic conditions for analysis. Mean monthly air temperatures are available at the 11 meteorological stations in Figure 1 for the seven-winter study period. To account for the variability indicated by these temperatures, a basin mean temperature and standard deviation were obtained and are presented in Table 2. The coldest winter of the study period was 1978–79, and January 1979 was the coldest month. Five of the six other winters had less than half of the freezing degree-days of this winter. With these temperatures as input, we obtained the ice growth or melt for each month, and the mean thickness

and standard deviation at the end of the month are given in Table 2. December 1977 and January 1980 were the months of maximum ice growth, and February 1976 was the month of maximum melt in this period of record.

Figures 4 and 5 give results for January 1979, the coldest month of the study. The mean, standard deviation, and corresponding beta distribution for  $Q_{ice}$  and  $Q_{sub}$  of each main-stem White River reach are presented in Figure 4. The storage of water as ice is an important term in the water balance of the White River below Oglala, but it is of less significance farther upstream and on the Little White River, where the stream widths are small and the flows are relatively high. The Crawford-Oglala subbasin had a negative yield to the river. The distributions for  $Q_{ice}$  and  $Q_{sub}$ have similar shapes in the two reaches below Oglala. There is a small probability that the Oglala-Kadoka subbasin had a negative yield and the Kadoka-Oacoma subbasin had a positive yield to the river. The mean and standard deviation data are repeated in Figure 5 from upstream (left) to downstream (right), together with corresponding flows at the gages. The river flows diminished from Crawford to Kadoka and then recovered somewhat at Oacoma, due to a significant inflow from the Little White River. The mean water storage as ice increased in successive reaches downstream, as did its variance. The variance of subbasin flow exchange with the river also increased in the downstream direction.

Table 2. Mean and standard deviation for monthly air temperature over the basin  $T_a$  (°C), and corresponding cumulative ice thickness  $h_f$  (m).

Year	Variable	November	December	January	February
1974-75	$T_{\mathbf{a}}$	2.8, 1.2	-2.2, 1.1	<b>-4.4</b> , 0.9	-7.2, 0.9
	$h_{\mathrm{f}}$	0, 0	0.19, 0.072	0.40, 0.056	0.61, 0.047
1975–76	$T_{\mathbf{a}}$	1.1, 1.0	-1.7, 1.3	-5.0, 1.4	1.7, 1.2
	$h_{\rm f}$	0, 0	0.15, 0.096	0.40, 0.074	0.12, 0.23
1976-77	$T_{\mathbf{a}}$	-0.6, 0.6	-2.8, 0.8	-10.6, 1.3	1.1, 1.2
	$h_{f}^{a}$	0.06, 0.06	0.26, 0.054	0.63, 0.046	0.45, 0.20
1977-78	$T_{\mathbf{a}}$	0.6, 2.1	-6.1, 1.2	-12.8, 1.4	-10.0, 1.4
	$h_{\mathrm{f}}^{a}$	0, 0	0.38, 0.052	0.75,0.046	0.93, 0.045
1978-79	$T_{\mathbf{a}}$	-3.9, 1.0	-8.3, 1.4	-13.9, 0.9	-8.9, 1.8
	$h_{\mathbf{f}}^{a}$	0.28, 0.051	0.58, 0.051	0.89, 0.041	1.0, 0.045
1979-80	$T_{\mathbf{a}}$	0, 1.7	0.6, 1.3	-6.1, 1.1	-3.3, 1.1
	$h_{\mathrm{f}}^{a}$	0, 0	0, 0	0.38, 0.048	0.49, 0.052
1980-81	Ta	3.9, 1.5	-1.7, 1.0	-0.6, 0.7	-1.7, 0.9
	$h_{\rm f}$	0, 0	0.16, 0.073	0.20, 0.080	0.28, 0.076

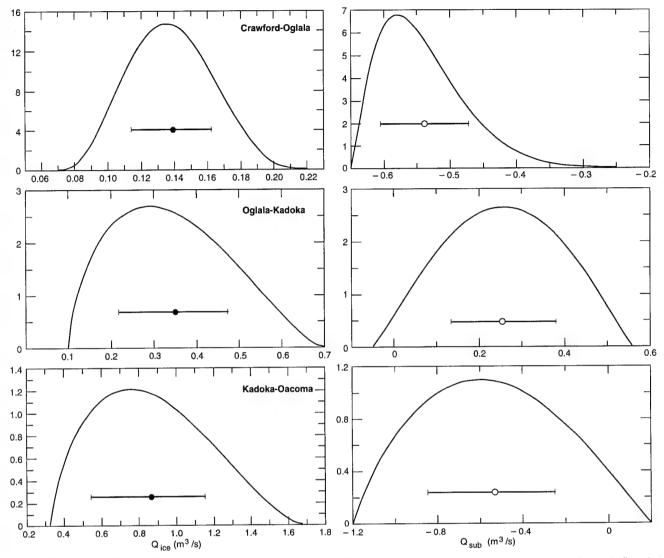


Figure 4. Beta distributions with means and standard deviations indicated for water storage as ice and subbasin inflow in January 1979, by reach between main-stem White River gages. Positive  $Q_{ice}$  is water loss due to ice growth, and positive  $Q_{sub}$  is flow to the river from the subbasin.

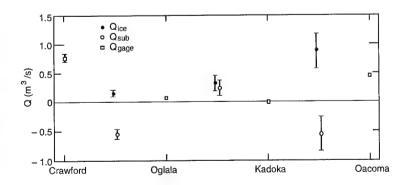


Figure 5. January 1979 monthly flow at mainstem White River gages, water storage as ice, and subbasin inflows of the reaches between gages. Both the mean and standard deviation are given for each parameter.

Results for each main-stem subbasin are detailed in Figure 6 for 1978-79, the coldest winter of the study. The ice production was consistent over the winter except for a drop in February, with increasing mean and variance in the downstream direction. The mean subbasin flow exchanges were consistently negative for Crawford to Oglala and Kadoka to Oacoma, but positive between. The magnitudes of  $Q_{ice}$  and Q<sub>sub</sub> are generally comparable to or larger than the river flows at the gages for this entire winter. Figure 7 gives corresponding results for 1979-80, another low-flow winter with only average air temperatures. The flow storage due to ice growth was reduced somewhat compared with 1978-79, but subbasin yields to the river were generally comparable. Water storage as ice must be considered in a winter water balance for semiarid regions, but extreme cold may not significantly alter basin hydrologic response. In both winters the magnitudes of Q<sub>sub</sub> obtained for all the main-stem subbasins are large compared to Qint calculated by Rothrock (1942), in support of our assumption that the net groundwater exchange between subbasins is negligible.

The Crawford–Oglala subbasin had only 3 of 28 months with a net inflow to the river: February 1976, the month of maximum ice melt in the period with relatively high flows indicating runoff throughout the basin, and two months in the 1979–80 winter. Excluding the four highest inflow months, the mean  $Q_{\rm sub}$  for the period was  $-0.318~{\rm m}^3/{\rm s}$  with a standard deviation of  $0.125~{\rm m}^3/{\rm s}$ . The only perennial stream in the reach is White Clay Creek. To obtain  $Q_{\rm gw}$  the analysis was repeated with Crawford plus White

Clay Creek providing  $Q_{\rm in}$ . With this change the correlation between reach inflow and outflow increased from 0.409 to 0.721. The mean  $Q_{\rm gw}$  obtained was  $-0.483~{\rm m}^3/{\rm s}$ , with a standard deviation of 0.091  ${\rm m}^3/{\rm s}$ . Groundwater recharge occurs consistently at a steady rate during winter and represents a significant flow loss from the river.

The Oglala-Kadoka subbasin produced con-

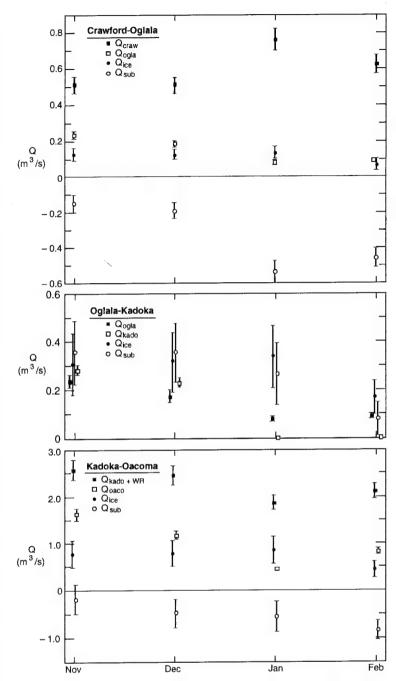


Figure 6. Winter 1978-79 monthly flows at main-stem White River gages, water storage as ice, and subbasin inflow for the reaches between the gages.

sistently positive inflows. The three large inflow months were the melt in February 1976 and prefreezeup combined with relatively high precipitation in November 1977 and 1979. The months of small local inflows were those with low flows at both gages and minor ice production. Excluding the four highest inflow months, the overall mean  $Q_{\text{sub}}$  was 0.39 m<sup>3</sup>/s, with a standard devia-

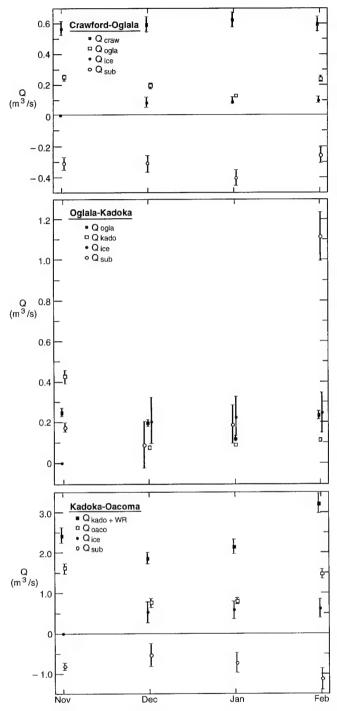


Figure 7. Winter 1974–75 monthly flows at main-stem White River gages, water storage as ice, and subbasin inflow for the reaches between the gages.

tion of 0.32 m<sup>3</sup>/s and all positive monthly means. The river–groundwater exchange in this reach is clearly different from that in the adjacent subbasin upstream, but the quantity and direction are masked by inflow from three perennial creeks.

Two of these creeks were gaged in 1992–93, having a combined winter flow 1.7 times that of White Clay Creek. We use two times the White Clay Creek flow as a conservative estimate of tributary inflow to this reach. The overall mean  $Q_{\rm gw}$  was obtained, again excluding the four high inflow months, as 0.11 m³/s with a standard deviation of 0.31 m³/s and 12 negative mean inflow months. The river–groundwater exchange in either direction near Kadoka is consistent with Rothrock (1942), but a more quantitative understanding will require additional tributary flow data.

The monthly subbasin inflows on the Little White River above Rosebud are always positive. The mean inflows downstream of the Rosebud gage are usually positive, but there is a significant probability of negative inflows for almost all months of the study period. These significantly reduced subbasin yields to the river represent a transitional behavior between the high yields of the Little White basin upstream and the low yields of the White River subbasin immediately downstream. The Little White River inflow to the Kadoka-Oacoma reach is typically much greater in winter than the White River main stem flow at Kadoka. Significant positive subbasin inflows to this furthermost downstream White River reach were computed for February 1976, November 1977, and November 1979, the same months as the adjacent subbasin upstream. However, the local monthly subbasin inflows are again generally negative in the winter. Flow losses in 7 of 28 months exceeded  $1.1 \,\mathrm{m}^3/\mathrm{s}$ , with a maximum loss of 2.5m<sup>3</sup>/s. Neither the coldest months nor those with maximum ice growth correspond to months of maximum flow loss from this reach.

We now consider the assumption of negligible channel storage in the water balance. For most of the seven study winters, the change in average flow of consecutive months was small throughout the basin, and  $Q_{\rm st}$  could be neglected without significant error. The largest flow increase of the study period on the mainstem White River occurred between January 1976, a cold, low-flow month, and February 1976, a month of significant melt, runoff, and relatively high flow. The consecutive monthly lows at Oglala and Kadoka increased by factors

flows at Oglala and Kadoka increased by factors of 8 and 29, respectively. We obtained  $Q_{\rm st}$  using USGS gage rating data from these months. The mean subbasin inflow to the river increased from 9.55 to 9.71 m<sup>3</sup>/s when channel storage was con-

change of less than 2%. Similarly, a flow decrease by a factor of 20 occurred at Kadoka between October and November 1980. Mean subbasin inflow decreased from 0.24 to 0.02  $\rm m^3/s$  with channel storage included in the water balance. The direction of  $Q_{\rm gw}$  can be reversed by the channel storage term for decreasing flow conditions.

### HYDROLOGIC IMPLICATIONS

The winter hydrologic balance is useful for determining flow quantities and directions, but insights on the annual exchanges would be very important. The balance between groundwater consumption and recharge determines the long-term availability of the resource. Conversely, increased flow losses from the river affect water quality, aquatic habitat, and surface water availability. Figure 8 depicts the possibilities for a near-surface aguifer that is recharged by the river during winter. The first has the river perched above the water table throughout the year, resulting in a continuous loss of water from the river by unsaturated flow. For given alluvial bed conditions the flow loss would be proportional to the wetted perimeter and depth of the river, each generally increasing with river flow. The other possible condition is a coupled stream–aquifer system, with a fluctuating relationship between river and groundwater levels throughout the year. In the case depicted, a summer of groundwater withdrawals and insufficient recharge has caused the water table to fall to a minimum by the end of October. The end of the irrigation season, together with recharge from the river over the winter, causes a recovery of the levels. By April the water table is at river level, and it continues to rise through June. After that time groundwater discharge and withdrawals cause the levels to fall, reaching river level in July and continuing down with sustained withdrawals toward the fall minimum. A plot of flow loss from the perched river is depicted in Figure 9, together with the mean annual hydrograph of the White River at Oglala. With a perched river, the winter flow loss extrapolated through the year would provide a lower-bound estimate of annual groundwater recharge from the river. The case of a coupled hydrologic system is depicted in Figure 10. "Net groundwater loss" in this figure is the withdrawal restricted to the period with the water table at or below river level. As drawn, the flow loss in winter is nearly equal to the annual river flow loss. An extrapolation of the winter losses provides an upper bound for recharge from the river.

The net yield per square kilometer of a subbasin or the net flow loss per square meter of channel bed of three main-stem reaches are given in Table 3 for relatively dry months (January 1977 and 1979) and wet months (February 1976 and November 1977). Tributary inflows considered apart from

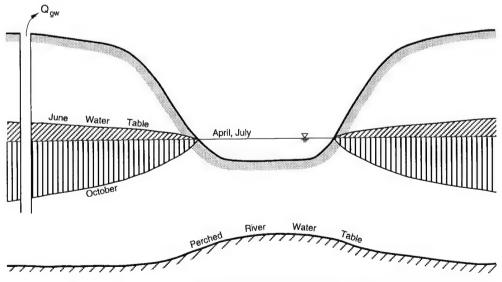


Figure 8. Schematic diagram of a river that recharges the groundwater during winter. Groundwater withdrawal is indicated. The river may be perched above the water table or directly connected to the water table in a coupled hydrologic system. Water tables in the diagonal shading discharge to the river, and those in the vertical shading or below are recharged by the river.

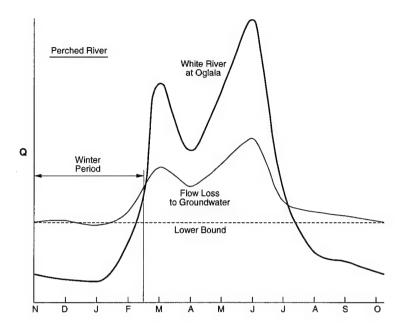


Figure 9. Hypothetical flow loss from the river to the groundwater for a perched river. The mean annual hydrograph for the White River at Oglala is used as a reference. The flow loss during winter extended over the year provides a lower bound for the annual flow loss.

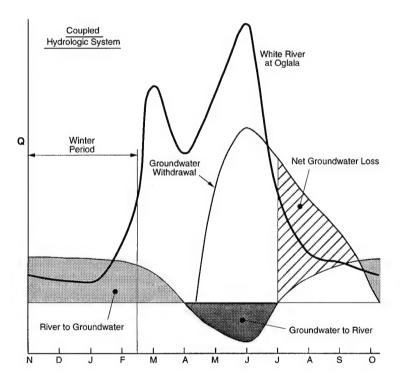


Figure 10. Hypothetical flow exchange between the river and the groundwater for a coupled hydrologic system. The mean annual hydrograph of the White River at Oglala is used as a reference. The curve of groundwater withdrawal is based on irrigation data of Sando (1991) and represents losses above recharge from precipitation and return flow. The lighter shading represents volumetric loss from the river, in balance with net groundwater loss (diagonal shading), and the darker shading represents volumetric groundwater to river exchange.

the remainder of the subbasin were White Clay Creek (WCC), two times White Clay Creek (2WCC), and the Little White River at WR. In a given month with no additional tributary inflows, the subbasin yield or river flow loss given in Table 3 is the groundwater exchange. With few exceptions the Crawford–Oglala reach had consistent flow losses over the channel area of between 4.0 and  $4.9 \times 10^{-7}$  m<sup>3</sup>/s-m<sup>2</sup>, a midrange seepage ve-

locity for fine sands and silts (Bear 1972). The evidence supports the hypothesis of a predominantly perched river through this reach. Small, variable flow losses and yields from the other two subbasins with significant uncertainties suggest more complex coupled hydrologic systems in these reaches. Additional measurements of relative river–alluvial aquifer levels over the year, local groundwater withdrawals, and tributary inflows

Table 3. Mean, standard deviation for  $Q_{\text{sub}}$ , and net subbasin yield per km<sup>2</sup> or flow loss per m<sup>2</sup> of channel.

Subbasin	$Q_{sub}$ $(m^{3/s})$	Net yield $\times 10^{-4}$ ( $m^3$ /s- $km^2$ )	Net unit loss $\times 10^{-7}$ $(m^3/\text{s}-m^2)$	Q <sub>sub</sub> (m <sup>3</sup> /s)	Net yield $\times 10^4$ ( $m^3/s$ - $km^2$ )	Net unit loss $\times 10^{-7}$ $(m^3/s-m^2)$
		January 19	77		January 19	79
Cr + WCC-Og	-0.48, 0.06		4.09, 0.50	0.57, 0.06		4.87, 0.55
Og + 2WCC-Ka	0.13, 0.15	0.18, 0.21		0.21, 0.13	0.28, 0.18	
Ka + WR-Oa	-0.20, 0.34	•	0.30, 0.50	-0.55, 0.31		0.81, 0.45
Ra I WIL Ou	February 1976			November 1977		
Cr + WCC-Og	0.49, 0.12	1.01, 0.25		-0.56, 0.05		4.84, 0.45
Og + 2WCC-Ka	9.05, 0.86	12.4, 1.18		1.94, 0.18	2.65, 0.25	
Ka + WR-Oa	0.53, 0.70	0.57, 0.75		1.81, 0.20	1.94, 0.21	

would reduce the uncertainty in the winter hydrologic balance and allow reliable estimates of the annual flow exchanges.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

The semiarid White River basin is heterogeneous, with highly variable annual and winter average subbasin yields to the river caused by differences in soils and underlying strata. Winter is the season of minimum flows throughout the basin. The winter water balance is simplified because of the absence of quantities, such as evapotranspiration and water withdrawals, that are large in other seasons and have large uncertainties. We have developed a methodology for quantifying inflow to the river from a subbasin and the riveralluvial aquifer flow exchange by month through the winter. Important aspects of the method are a winter water balance equation with a river ice growth-melt term and a point estimate method that uses deterministic models with variable or uncertain parameters. The yield to the river from a subbasin is affected by precipitation, geology, and consumption. Trends in this parameter with time or between subbasins have direct water management implications.

The variable severity of the winters in our sevenyear study period did not significantly affect the water balance. Water storage as ice is generally a dominant component of the water balance on the main-stem White River below Oglala, where the channel becomes wide. The large Crawford-Oglala and Kadoka-Oacoma subbasins on the main stem did not contribute flow to the river in most months of the study period. Even relatively mild winters did not produce inflows from these subbasins, unless a runoff event occurred. In contrast, the Oglala-Kadoka subbasin, situated between the others, consistently contributed flow to the river. The flow to this reach from three perennial creeks is the probable cause of this anomalous behavior. Very consistent monthly flow losses from the river at a sand-silt seepage velocity provide evidence of a predominantly perched river between Crawford and Oglala. Small, variable flow yields and losses suggest coupled hydrologic systems downstream, with the alluvial water table near (Oglala-Kadoka) or below (Kadoka-Oacoma) the river level during winter. These hypothetical hydrologic systems, based on the results of this study, are consistent with the field investigations of Rothrock (1942).

The mean, variance, and extremes obtained with the PEM for dependent variables such as water storage as ice and subbasin inflow allow definitive conclusions to be developed or identify the independent variables responsible for uncertainty in the results. Computation of air temperatures by subbasin instead of over the complete basin, and additional river width data to characterize a reach, would reduce the uncertainty in the present water balance. Improved estimates of the exchange between the river and the alluvial groundwater in a subbasin can be obtained by gaging all perennial creeks. A well-defined water balance that quantifies the winter river exchange with the alluvial aquifer in semiarid regions, together with measurements of the relative river-alluvial aquifer levels throughout the year, can provide reliable estimates of the annual flow exchange.

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### APPENDIX A: ROSENBLEUTH'S POINT ESTIMATE METHOD

The PEM of Rosenbleuth (1975) is described here in detail for a function of two random variables  $y(x_1,x_2)$ . The correlation coefficient of random variables  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  is defined as

$$\rho = \frac{Cov(x_1, x_2)}{S_{x_1}, S_{x_2}} \tag{A1}$$

where  $S_X$  is the standard deviation of x and  $Cov(x_1,x_2)$  is the covariance. A correlation coefficient of 1 indicates a perfect linear correlation between the variables, and a coefficient of 0 indicates perfectly uncorrelated variables. Numerical experiments have shown that if the relationship between random variables over a limited range can be written as

$$x_1 = ax_2^b (A2)$$

then the magnitude of  $\rho$  will be approximately 1.

To simplify this discussion, we will assume that the distribution of each random variable is symmetric about the mean. The point estimates that represent the distribution of each random variable are then

$$P_{++} = P_{--} = \frac{1+\rho}{4}$$

$$P_{+-} = P_{-+} = \frac{1-\rho}{4}$$
(A3)

These point estimates are weighting factors that sum to 1 and, in the case of uncorrelated random variables, are each 1/4. The function  $y(x_1,x_2)$  is evaluated at points that are a standard deviation from the mean of each random variable:

$$y_{++} = y(\overline{x}_1 + S_{x_1}, \overline{x}_2 + S_{x_2})$$

$$y_{+-} = y(\overline{x}_1 + S_{x_1}, \overline{x}_2 - S_{x_2})$$

$$y_{-+} = y(\overline{x}_1 - S_{x_1}, \overline{x}_2 + S_{x_2})$$

$$y_{--} = y(\overline{x}_1 - S_{x_1}, \overline{x}_2 - S_{x_2})$$
(A4)

Then, the expected values or moments of the function can be obtained as

$$E(y^n) = P_{++}y_{++}^n + P_{+-}y_{+-}^n + P_{-+}y_{-+}^n + P_{--}y_{--}^n.$$
(A5)

The expected value or mean of y is found by setting n = 1. The variance of y is readily obtained as

$$V(y) = E(y^2) - [E(y)]^2 = S_y^2.$$
(A6)

The minimum and maximum values of y fall outside the limits of the values obtained in eq A4. Rosenbleuth (1975) discussed the generalization of this method to functions of any number of random variables and random variables with asymmetric distributions.

In summary, the PEM provides estimates of the mean, variance, and limits of the distribution of a function of random variables. These four parameters uniquely specify a

 $\beta$ -distribution, described by the general expression given by Harr (1977)

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{(b-a)B(\alpha+1,\beta+1)} \left(\frac{y-a}{b-a}\right)^{\alpha} \left(\frac{b-y}{b-a}\right)^{\beta}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{(\overline{y}-a)^2}{S_y^2} (1-\tilde{y}) - (1+\tilde{y})$$

$$\beta = \frac{\alpha+1}{\tilde{y}} - (\alpha+2)$$

$$\tilde{y} = \left(\frac{\overline{y}-a}{b-a}\right)$$
(A7)

where a and b are the minimum and maximum values of y, and B is a beta function. When  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  have the same sign, the  $\beta$ -distribution is unimodal and bell-shaped. The coefficients of skewness and kurtosis of the  $\beta$ -distribution can be readily obtained. With this distribution, the probability of y in a given range can be determined.

Each model that was used to apply the PEM in this study has the same main program and a unique subroutine called EQN that contains the specific equation being solved. The main program performs all input and output functions and applies the PEM. The input variables and file structure are described in the comments contained in the main program, as well as the definitions of all variables used. In subroutine EQN each independent random variable has a number that gives its position in the array VAR. In the output file, the mean, coefficient of variation, standard deviation, and mean plus and minus standard deviation are given for each independent random variable by position in VAR. This list is followed by the mean, variance, standard deviation, coefficient of variation, and estimates of the maximum and minimum of the corresponding dependent variable. The EQN subroutines developed in this study are

- ROSICTHK, used to obtain the change in ice thickness from the air temperatures in the basin using the temperature index model,
- ROSQICE, used to obtain the discharge loss from the stream that goes into storage in a reach as ice,
- ROSQST, used to obtain the discharge loss to a stream to satisfy a change in water storage in a reach,
- ROSQLCL, used to obtain the discharge from the subbasin to a stream reach,
- ROSQYLD, used in cases with a negative local inflow from the subbasin to obtain the flow loss per square meter of wetted stream channel area.

Listings of these subroutines and of the main program follow.

### PROGRAM ROSICTHK С COMPUTE THE ICE THICKNESS FROM THE TEMPERATURE INDEX MODEL C DIMENSION ID(515,9),RT(515),CVARP(9,7),CVARM(9,7) DIMENSION RHO(37), NRV1(37), NRV2(37), SIGN(37), RHT(37) DIMENSION XBAR(9),CV(9),SX(9),VARP(9),VARM(9),INDEX(9) C ROSENBLUETH'S FOSM APPROXIMATE PROCEDURE TO DETERMINE THE MEAN AND STANDARD DEVIATION OF Y GIVEN THE FUNCTIONS X(I), I=1,N. THE SUBROUTINE EQN IS USED TO CALCULATE Y. C PROGRAMMED BY EARL EDRIS, WES PHONE 601-634-3378 C С **DEFINITIONS:** С NUMBER OF RANDOM VARIABLES С С XBAR MEAN VALUE OF RANDOM VARIABLE CCCCC SX STANDARD DEVAITON OF RANDOM VARIABLE CV COEFFICIENT OF VARIATION OF RANDOM VARIABLE VARP MEAN PLUS ONE STANDARD DEVIATION OF RANDOM VARIABLE VARM MEAN MINUS ONE STANDARD DEVIATION OF RANDOM VARIABLE 000000 I,J,K,JJ INDEX VARIABLES FOR ARRAY SUBCRIPTING TYPE VARIABLE INDICATING TYPE OF DATA BEING INPUT 1 - ENTERING COEFFICIENT OF VARIATION С 2 - ENTERING STANDARD DEVIATION C INDEX ARRAY INDICATING HOW PLUS AND MINUS TERMS ARE OBTAINED C 0 - CALCULATE VALUES AS MEAN PLUS OR MINUS SX 1 - ENTER VALUES FOR PLUS AND MINUS TERMS CCC NPM NUMBER OF PLUS AND MINUS TERMS TO BE ENTERED FOR A RANDOM **VARIABLE** CCCC CVARP ARRAY CONTAINING ENTERED PLUS VALUES CVARM ARRAY CONTAINING ENTERED MINUS VALUES C С MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CORRELATION COEFFICIENTS C RHO CORRELATION COEFFICIENT С NRV1,NRV2 RANDOM VARIABLES ASSOCIATED WITH RHO VALUE C С TOTI MAXIMUM NUMBER OF POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS OF PLUS AND С MINUS TERMS FOR N RANDOM VARIABLES С С ARRAY INDICATING WHEN PLUS AND MINUS TERMS SHOULD BE C USED FOR EACH COMBINATION GIVEN N RANDOM VARIABLES С C TT,TN,TOTN,P VARIABLES OR INDEXES USED TO OBTAIN ID ARRAY C PP ARRAY CONTAINING THE CALCULATED P VALUES CCC SUMP SUMMATION OF P VALUES C SIGN OF CORRELATION COEFFICIENTS BASED ON VALUES IN ID ARRAY SIGN С RHT MULTIPLICATION OF SIGN AND RHO VALUES Ċ

SUMMATION OF RHT VALUES

RT

```
DEPENDENT VARIABLE EXPRESSED AS A FUNCTION OF N RANDOM VAR.
C
   Υ
Ċ
С
   Y2
         SQUARE OF Y
C
         MAXIMUM VALUE CALCULATED FOR Y
С
   YMAX
C
         MINIMUM VALUE CALCULATED FOR Y
С
   YMIN
С
          SUMMATION OF THE QUANTITY Y MULTIPLIED BY PP
С
   SUMY
С
   SUMY2 SUMMATION OF THE QUANTITY Y2 MULTIPLIED BY PP
С
С
         VARIABLE ARRAY USED TO TRANSFER APPROPIATE CALCULATED
С
   VAR
        PLUS OR MINUS VALUES TO THE SUBROUTINE EQN TO CALCULATE Y
С
С
         VARIABLE ARRAY USED TO TRANSFER APPROPIATE INPUT PLUS
С
   VR
        OR MINUS VALUES TO THE SUBROUTINE EQN TO CALCULATE Y
C
С
C
         EXPECTED VALUE OF Y
   EY
С
С
   SY2
         VARIANCE OF Y
C
         STANDARD DEVIATION OF Y
С
   SY
C
          COEFFICIENT OF VARIATION OF Y
С
   CVY
C
C
C
С
  INPUT
    NOTE: EQUATION TO CALCULATE Y MUST BE ENTERED INTO SUBROUTINE EQN
С
        BEFORE COMPILING PROGRAM
C
C
С
    FIRST LINE - N
С
    SECOND LINE - XBAR,CV OR SX,TYPE,INDEX FOR FIRST RANDOM VAR.
С
С
С
            TYPE - 1 ENTER COEFFICIENT OF VARIATION
С
                2 ENTER STANDARD DEVIATION
C
            INDEX - 0 CALCULATE PLUS AND MINUS TERMS
С
                 1 ENTER PLUS AND MINUS TERMS
C
       IF INDEX = 0 REPEAT SECOND LINE FOR NEXT RANDOM VARIABLE
C
       IF INDEX = 1
С
          THIRD LINE - NPM
С
          FOURTH LINE - CVARP, CVARM CONTINUE FOR NPM LINES
С
C
    AFTER ALL RANDOM VARIABLES ARE INPUT
С
    NEXT LINE - NRHO
С
      IF NRHO = 0 END OF INPUT
C
C
С
      IF NRHO > 0 NEXT LINES CONTAIN - RHO,NRV1,NRV2
C
   COMMON /DAT/VAR(9),VR(9,7)
   REAL PP(515)
   INTEGER C,NPM(9)
C
   OPEN(UNIT=1,FILE='ROSINP')
   OPEN(UNIT=6,FILE='ROSOUT')
  READ NUMBER OF RANDOM VARIABLES
   READ (1,*) N
```

```
C READ VARIABLE DATA
C
  DO 10 J=1.N
C
С
  INPUT: MEAN, VX OR STD, TYPE, INDEX
  TYPE= 1 IF VX OR 2 IF STD
C
  INDEX= 0 TO CALCU + - TERMS OR 1 TO ENTER VALUES
C
   READ (1,*) XBAR(J),CV(J),TYPE,INDEX(J)
   IF (TYPE.EQ.1) THEN
   SX(J)=XBAR(J)*CV(J)
   ELSE
   SX(J)=CV(J)
   CV(J)=SX(J)/XBAR(J)
   ENDIF
   IF (INDEX(J).EQ.1) THEN
C INPUT: # OF + OR - TERMS TO BE ENTERED
   READ(1,*) NPM(J)
   DO 12 K=1,NPM(J)
C INPUT: PLUS VALUE, MINUS VALUE
 12 READ(1,*) CVARP(J,K),CVARM(J,K)
   VARP(J)=XBAR(J)+SX(J)
   VARM(J)=XBAR(J)-SX(J)
   ENDIF
   WRITE(6,150) XBAR(J),CV(J),SX(J),VARP(J),VARM(J)
 10 CONTINUE
150 FORMAT(5X,'XBAR=',F8.4,5X,'CV=',F5.3,5X,'SX=',F8.4,
  & /,10X,'PLUS=',F8.4,5X,'MINUS=',F8.4)
C RHO VALUES
   MAX. NUMBER OF RHO VALUES
С
С
    C=(N^*(N-1))/2
С
   INITIALIZE RHO ARRAYS
     RHO-ARRAY, NRV-NUMBER OF R. V. ASSOC. WITH RHO
C
С
    DO 14 I=1,C
    RHO(I)=0.0
    NRV1(I)=1
 14 NRV2(I)=1
С
   READ NUMBER OF RHO VALUES TO BE INPUT
С
С
   INPUT: # OF RHO VALUES
    READ(1,*) NRHO
    IF (NRHO.EQ.0) GO TO 15
С
   ERROR CHECK-MAKE SURE NRHO IS LESS THAN THE MAX NO. OF RHO VALUES
    IF(NRHO.GT.C)THEN
    NRHO=C
    WRITE(6,200) NRHO,C
    ENDIF
С
  READ RHO VALUES AND ASSOC. RANDOM VARIABLES
С
    DO 20 J=1,NRHO
C INPUT: RHO, ASSOC R. V. 1 AND 2'
 18 READ(1,*) RHO(J),NRV1(J),NRV2(J)
C ERROR CHECK-MAKE SURE NRV1 DOES NOT EQUAL NRV2
    IF(NRV1(J).EQ.NRV2(J)) THEN
    WRITE(6,205) NRV1(J),NRV2(J)
   GO TO 18
   ENDIF
 20 CONTINUE
```

```
PRINT RHO ARRAY AND ASSOC. R. V.
С
   WRITE(6,120) (RHO(J),NRV1(J),NRV2(J),J=1,NRHO)
120 FORMAT(10X, 'RHO=',F7.3,5X, 'NRV1=',I3,5X, 'NRV2=',I3)
C DEVELOP PLUS AND MINUS ARRAY
 15 CONTINUE
   K=-1
  MAXIMUM NUMBER OF POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS
   TOTI=2**N
   DO 22 J=1,N
   TT=1
   TOTN=2**(J-1)
   P=TOTI/TOTN
   DO 24 JJ=1,P
   TN=TT+TOTN-1
   IF(TN.GT.TOTI) GO TO 22
   IF (K.EQ.-1) THEN
   DO 26 I=TT,TN
 26 ID(I,J)= K
    K=+1
   ELSE
    DO 28 I=TT,TN
 28 ID(I,J)= K
    K=-1
   ENDIF
   TT=TT+TOTN
 24 CONTINUE
 22 CONTINUE
C DETERMINE SIGN OF RHO VALUES BASED ON THE SIGNS OF THE TWO NRV
C
    VALUES
    SUMP=0.0
   DO 30 I=1,TOTI
   RT(I)=0.0
    DO 32 J=1,C
    SIGN(J)=ID(I,NRV1(J))*ID(I,NRV2(J))
    RHT(J)=SIGN(J)*RHO(J)
 32 RT(I)=RT(I)+RHT(J)
С
C CALCULATE P VALUES
   PP(I)=(1/TOTI)*(1+RT(I))
    WRITE(6,130) I,PP(I)
C130 FORMAT(10X,'P',13,5X,F6.3)
   SUMP=SUMP+PP(I)
   ENSURE P VALUES ARE BETWEEN 0 AND 1
    IF(PP(I).LT.0.0) THEN
    IF(PP(I).GT.1.0) THEN
    WRITE(6,210) PP(I)
    GO TO 99
    ENDIF
    ENDIF
  30 CONTINUE
    IF(SUMP.GT.1.001) THEN
     WRITE(6,215) SUMP
    GO TO 99
    ENDIF
 C CALCULATE Y MEAN AND STD OF Y
 С
 С
    DO 34 J=1,N
 С
    IF (INDEX(J).EQ.1) THEN
     DO 36 K=1,NPM(J)
```

```
C 36 VR(J,K)=(CVARP(J,K)+CVARM(J,K))/2
   ELSE
   VAR(J)=XBAR(J)
   ENDIF
C 34 CONTINUE
   CALL EQN(Y)
   YMAX=Y
   YMIN=Y
   YMIN=100000.
   SUMY=0.0
   SUMY2=0.0
   DO 40 I=1,TOTI
   DO 42 J=1.N
   IF (INDEX(J).EQ.1) THEN
   IF (ID(I,J).LT.0) THEN
    DO 44 K=1,NPM(J)
     VR(J,K) = CVARM(J,K)
   ENDIF
   IF (ID(I,J).GT.0) THEN
    DO 46 K=1,NPM(J)
     VR(J,K) = CVARP(J,K)
   ENDIF
   ELSE
   IF (ID(I,J).LT.0) VAR(J)=VARM(J)
   IF (ID(I,J).GT.0) VAR(J)=VARP(J)
   ENDIF
42 CONTINUE
   CALL EQN (Y)
   IF (YMIN.GT.Y) YMIN=Y
   IF (YMAX.LT.Y) YMAX=Y
   Y2 = Y**2
   SUMY=SUMY+PP(I)*Y
   SUMY2=SUMY2+PP(I)*Y2
40 CONTINUE
   EY=SUMY
   SY2=SUMY2-(EY**2)
   IF(SY2.LT.0.)SY2=0.
   SY=SQRT(SY2)
   CVY=SY/EY
   WRITE(6,160) EY,SY2,SY,CVY,YMAX,YMIN
160 FORMAT(5X, 'MEAN=', F10.4, 5X, 'VAR[X]=', F10.4, 5X, 'STD X=',
  & F10.4,/,5X,'COEFF OF VAR=',F5.3,5X,'MAX. Y=',F10.4,
   & 5X,'MIN. Y=',F10.4)
C ERROR MESSAGES
200 FORMAT(10X, '*** ERROR MESSAGE ***', /, 10X,
  & 'ATTEMPTED TO ENTER',13,' RHO VALUES WHEN ONLY',13,
  & 'ARE POSSIBLE(PROGRAM CONT. W/ MAX ALLOWABLE)')
205 FORMAT(10X, '*** ERROR MESSAGE ***, /, 10X,
  & 'DIFFERENT RANDOM VARIABLES ARE NEEDED FOR RHO'./.
   & 'THE FOLLOWING VALUES WERE ENTERED', 213,' (REENTER DATA)')
210 FORMAT(10X, **** ERROR MESSAGE ****, /, 10X,
  & 'THE P(I) VALUE', F6.4,' IS NOT BETWEEN 0 AND 1.',
  & '(PROGRAM TERMINATED)')
215 FORMAT(10X, **** ERROR MESSAGE ****, /, 10X,
  & 'THE SUM OF THE P VALUES IS',
  & F6.3,' WHICH IS ABOVE THE MAX VALUE OF 1.0.',
  & '(PROGRAM TERMINATED)')
С
 99 CLOSE(UNIT=1)
   CLOSE(UNIT=6)
   STOP 1111
   END
   SUBROUTINE EQN(Y)
  THIS SUBROUTINE CALCULATES THE ICE THICKNESS AT THE END OF A MONTH
  GIVEN THE THICKNESS AT THE START OF THE MONTH
   COMMON /DAT/VAR(9), VR(9,7)
С
  VARIABLE 1=K, 2=RHO, 3=HIN, 4=HIA, 5=TAIR(C), 6=DT(DAYS), Y=HF (END OF MONTH
     THICKNESS)
```

```
С
   IF(VAR(5).LT.0..OR.VAR(3).EQ.0.)GO TO 9
Y=VAR(3)-VAR(4)*VAR(5)*VAR(6)*8.64/(VAR(2)*33.34)
GO TO 11
С
 9 V14=VAR(1)/VAR(4)
   V142=V14*V14
    V32=VAR(3)*VAR(3)
    V12=2.*VAR(1)VAR(2)
    Y=V142+V32+2.*V14*VAR(3)-VAR(6)*V12*VAR(5)*8.64/33.34
С
    IF(Y.GT.0.)GO TO 10
Y=-SQRT(-Y)-V14
    GO TO 11
С
10 Y=SQRT(Y)-V14
11 CONTINUE
C
C WRITE(6,200) Y
C200 FORMAT(15X,'Y=',F10.4)
    RETURN
    END
```

```
PROGRAM ROSQICE
С
С
   COMPUTE THE DISCHARGE (QICE) LOST TO ICE GROWTH IN A RIVER REACH
С
  SUBROUTINE EQN(Y)
  COMMON /DAT/VAR(9), VR(9,7)
   VARIABLE 1=HF(ICE THICKNESS AT END OF MONTH, M), 2=HIN(ICE THICKNESS AT
С
    START OF MONTH, M), 3=DT(LENGTH OF MONTH, DAYS), 4=BUPSTR(MEAN
С
    STREAM WIDTH UPSTREAM PART OF REACH, FT), 5=BDNSTR(MEAN STREAM
C
    WIDTH DOWNSTREAM PART OF REACH, FT), 6=DX(REACH LENGTH, MILES),
    Y=QICE(M**3/S)
  BAVE=0.5*(VAR(4)+VAR(5))*0.3048
  DH=VAR(1)-VAR(2)
  Y=BAVE*DH*VAR(6)*1609.344/(VAR(3)*86400.)
С
   WRITE(6,200) Y
200 FORMAT(15X,'Y=',F10.4)
  RETURN
  END
```

```
PROGRAM ROSQST
С
  COMPUTE THE DISCHARGE (QST) LOST TO CHANNEL STORAGE IN A RIVER REACH
   SUBROUTINE EQN(Y)
  COMMON /DAT/VAR(9), VR(9,7)
C VARIABLE 1=DT (LENGTH OF MONTH, DAYS), 2=BUPSTR (MEAN STREAM WIDTH
C UPSTREAM PART OF REACH, FT), 3=BDNSTR (MEAN STREAM WIDTH DOWNSTREAM
C PART OF REACH, FT), 4=DX (REACH LENGTH, KM), 5=DY (CHANGE IN MEAN DEPTH
C UPSTREAM PART OF REACH, FT), 6=DY(CHANGE IN MEAN DEPTH DOWNSTREAM
  PART OF REACH, FT), Y=QST(M**3/S)
  Y=VAR(4)*1000/(86400*VAR(1))*((VAR(2)*VAR(5)+VAR(3)*VAR(6))*
  &.09290304)*.5
С
   WRITE(6,200) Y
200 FORMAT(15X,'Y=',F10.4)
  RETURN
  END
```

```
PROGRAM ROSQLCL
С
  COMPUTE THE DISCHARGE EXCHANGE WITH THE LOCAL BASIN (QLOCAL)
С
   POSITIVE--FLOW FROM SUBBASIN TO RIVER; NEGATIVE--FLOW LOSS FROM THE
Č
   RIVER TO THE ALLUVIAL AQUIFER
С
С
   SUBROUTINE EQN(Y)
  COMMON /DAT/VAR(9),VR(9,7)
C VARIABLE 1=QST(FLOW GOING INTO CHANNEL STORAGE, M**3/S), 2=QOUT
  (MEASURED OUTFLOW FROM A REACH, FT**3/S), 3=QIN (MEASURED INFLOW TO A
  REACH, FT**3/S), 4=QICE (FLOW GOING INTO STORAGE AS ICE, M**3/S),
С
  Y=QLOCAL (M**3/S)
С
   Y=(VAR(2)-VAR(3))*0.02831685+VAR(1)+VAR(4)
   WRITE(6,200) Y
C
200 FORMAT(15X,'Y=',F10.4)
   RETURN
   END
```

#### PROGRAM ROSQYLD С FOR CASES WITH NEGATIVE QLOCAL, COMPUTE THE FLOW LOSS FROM THE С STREAM PER M\*\*2 OF WETTED AREA (QYLD) C IMPLICIT REAL\*8(A-H,O-Z) C SUBROUTINE EQN(Y) IMPLICIT REAL\*8(A-H,O-Z) COMMON /DAT/VAR(9), VR(9,7) VARIABLE 1=QLCL (FLOW FROM RIVER TO ALLUVIAL AQUIFER, M\*\*3/S), 2=BUPSTR (MEAN STREAM WIDTH UPSTREAM PART OF REACH, FT), 3=BDNSTR (MEAN STREAM WIDTH DOWNSTREAM PART OF REACH, FT), 4=DX (REACH LENGTH, KM) Y=QYLD(M\*\*3/S/M\*\*2) С Y=VAR(1)/((.5\*(VAR(2)+VAR(3))\*.3048)\*1000.\*VAR(4)) WRITE(6,200) Y 200 FORMAT(15X,'Y=',D12.5) RETURN **END**

### REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved
OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestion for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.

1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)	2. REPORT DATE July 1995	3. REPORT TYPE AND DA	YPE AND DATES COVERED			
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE	5. FUNDIN	5. FUNDING NUMBERS				
The Winter Low-Flow Balance South Dakota	aska and					
6. AUTHORS						
Michael G. Ferrick, Nathan D. I						
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) A	ND ADDRESS(ES)		PRMING ORGANIZATION			
U.S. Army Cold Regions Resear 72 Lyme Road Hanover, New Hampshire 0375		EL 95-15				
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAM	IE(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)		ISORING/MONITORING ICY REPORT NUMBER			
Office of the Chief of Engineers Washington, D.C. 20314-1000						
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES		<b>,</b>				
12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMEN	NT	12b. DIST	RIBUTION CODE			
Approved for public release; di	stribution is unlimited.					
Available from NTIS, Springfie	ld, Virginia 22161					
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)		<u>'</u>				
Low-flow studies are needed to quantify the effects of water consumption on stream flow, water quality, groundwater resources, and contaminant transport. The low-flow water balance of a river in a cold region is simplified in winter because evapotranspiration is negligible, irrigation water withdrawals and diversions are halted, and precipitation occurs largely as snow, minimizing the spatial and temporal variability of runoff. We investigated the monthly low-flow water balance of White River (Neb. and S. Dak.) reaches over seven consecutive winters. Water going into or out of storage as ice or melt, obtained with an air temperature index model, can be a dominant component of the water balance. The point estimate method is used to account for parameter uncertainty and variability, providing the mean, variance, and limits of dependent variables such as water storage as ice and inflow from a subbasin. Negative surface water yield from several-thousand-square-kilometer subbasins occurred regularly through the period, indicating a significant flow from the river to the alluvial aquifers. The winter water balance results suggest either a perched river or a coupled surface water—groundwater hydrologic system in particular subbasins, consistent with the field investigations of Rothrock (1942). The winter flow exchange between the surface and subsurface can be used to estimate the annual exchange for both hydrologic conditions.						
14. SUBJECT TERMS	Semiar	id basin	15. NUMBER OF PAGES			

Streamflow

OF ABSTRACT

Winter water balance

19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

**UNCLASSIFIED** 

Point estimate method

18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

**UNCLASSIFIED** 

River ice growth

OF THIS PAGE

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20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT

16. PRICE CODE

OF REPORT

Low flow

17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

Perched river